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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,120	12/29/2000	Julio Estrada	L0T9-2000-0021 US1	8738

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IBM CORPORATION
LOTUS SOFTWARE
ONE ROGERS STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

EXAMINER

VU, KIEU D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 12/30/2003

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/752,120

Applicant(s)

ESTRADA ET AL.

Examiner

Kieu D Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-9, 12-16, and 22-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Salas et al ("Salas", USP 6233600).

Regarding claims 1 and 31, Salas teaches a method for controlling the layout of components of a user interface to collaboration space, comprising the steps of rendering individually addressable and placing on a page each said component (col 5, lines 22-27); and rendering components on said page equivalent to collaboration space tags for importation into said collaboration space for defining a skin group including a custom plurality of different display modes (col 5, lines 38-46) for use thereafter in instantiating said user interface (col 1, lines 35-45).

Regarding claim 2, Salas teaches that said page being an HTML page (col 2, lines 19-27) and said collaboration space being a place (eRoom)

Regarding claim 3, Salas teaches that said place being a file directory (col 3, lines 32-33).

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Regarding claims 4 and 25, Salas teaches the dragging and dropping said page from a user desktop to an output control for uploading to a collaboration space server (col 13, lines 14-26).

Regarding claims 5 and 27, Salas teaches the organizing said collaboration space including room (eRoom), folder (col 7, line 19), page (col 3, lines 32-33).

Regarding claims 6 and 28, Salas teaches said user interface components including logo (col 5, lines 54-59), table of contents, action bar 404, tool bar 404, and page content (col 14, lines 46-50), and said display modes including page read mode, edit mode, folder (col 5, lines 38-53).

Regarding claims 7 and 15, Salas teaches the providing links to other collaboration space resources (col 2, lines 10-11).

Regarding claim 8, Salas teaches integrating said collaboration space with an existing web site by including in said page links to network resources (col 2, lines 10-11).

Regarding claims 9 and 24, Salas teaches the uploading said pages to a server (col 13, lines 10-13).

Regarding claims 12, 23, and 32, Salas teaches a method for controlling the style and layout of a collaboration space user interface, comprising the steps of establishing a skin group including a set of hypertext markup language pages and common style sheet page for defining a plurality of different display modes for said user interface (col 5, lines 38-52), specifying component positioning in said user interface in a set of

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hypertext markup language pages (col 5, lines 22-27); and specifying font, size and color style in a common style sheet page (col 37-49).

Regarding claim 13, Salas teaches the rendering each said component on said hypertext markup language pages individually addressable (Fig. 4; col 2, lines 19-27).

Regarding claims 14 and 26, Salas teaches the rendering in a skin group said hypertext markup language and style sheet pages responsive to collaboration space tags; and responsive to a user request, importing said skin group into a place for instantiating said user interface (col 1, lines 35-45).

Regarding claim 16, Salas teaches the rendering said collaboration space to said user through said user interface (col 10, lines 66-67).

Regarding claim 29, Salas teaches modes (col 8, lines 55-56) and folder (reference numbers 417 and 482).

Regarding claim 30, Salas teaches theme of eRooms (col 7, lines 8-10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 10-11, 17-19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salas and Van Der Meer ("Van Der Meer", USP 6415316).

Regarding claims 10-11, 17-19, and 21, Salas does not the choosing a theme from a gallery of themes. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Van

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Der Meer. Van Der Meer teaches a method for implementing a web page diary in which the user can choose a theme, change the theme (col 2, lines 26-29), or edit property of theme (col 10, lines 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Salas and Van Der Meer before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface system taught by Salas to include choosing, changing, or editing theme taught by Van Der Meer with the motivation being to give the user the ability to present the theme he or she desires.

Regarding claim 22, Van Der Meer teaches the default and changed themes (col 2, lines 26-29).

5. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salas and Noguchi ("Noguchi", USP 5983184).

Regarding claim 20, Noguchi does not teach that the interface is structured for communication with a physically challenged user. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Noguchi. Noguchi teaches a method for hypertext control through voice synthesis which enable a visually impaired user to freely and easily control hyper text (col 3, lines 9-11). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Salas and Noguchi before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface system taught by Salas to include the communication with a visually impaired user taught by Noguchi with the motivation being to enable visually handicapped persons to access visual information displayed on the screen.

5. Applicant's arguments filed 10/06/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to Applicant's argument that Salas does not teach "rendering components on said page equivalent to collaboration space tags for importation" or "importing a skin group into a place for instantiating said user interface", it is noted that such is not quite the case.

Salas teaches page components (col 5, lines 24-27) and also teach that in a page "tags are embedded control information that indicates to the browser when certain action should be taken. For examples.....displaying" (col 1, lines 35-45). Therefore, it is inherent that Salas teaches that page components in col 5, lines 24-27 are rendered on the page as page (space) tags for importation into the page (space). Furthermore, page components in Salas define layout of the page, therefore, Salas teaches "a skin group" "for instantiating user interface"

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu whose telephone number is (703-605-1232). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703- 308-3116).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-872-9306

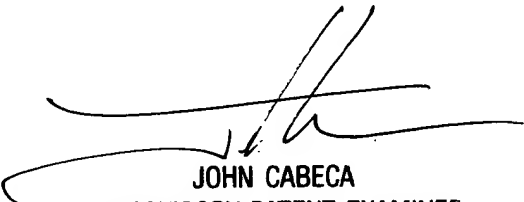
and / or:

(703)-746-5639 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Kieu D. Vu

12/23/03



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100